



Congressman Ted Poe
2nd District of Texas



COSPONSORED LEGISLATION

110th Congress

Updated February 29, 2008

Border Security & Illegal Immigration

H.R. 4464, Common Sense English Act - To ensure that an employer may require employees to speak English while engaged in work.

- Sponsor: Rep. Price, Tom (R-GA)
- Status: House Committee on Education and Labor

H.Con.Res. 218 – Expresses the sense of Congress that current immigration and border security laws should be enforced, that construction of the border fence should be expedited, emphasize the Administration's commitment to protecting both the southern and northern borders with Mexico and Canada, expand the 287(g) program, that Congress should fully fund the 18,000 border patrol agents that is authorized under law, and that state and law enforcement should be provided the necessary resources to prosecute those individuals who disregard United States immigration laws.

- Sponsor: Barrett, J. Gresham (R-SC)
- Status: Committee on Homeland Security and Committee on the Judiciary

H.R. 138, Employment Eligibility Verification and Anti-Identity Theft Act – Requires the Social Security Administration to share information with the Department of Homeland Security on letters that are sent to employers whose employees don't have matching names and Social Security numbers and could be illegal immigrants. There are about 9 million or 4% of all wage reports that have these no-matches.

- Sponsor: Rep. Gallegly, Elton (R-CA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections

H.R. 2508 – Requires all companies who have contracts with the federal government and hire contractors to have these people checked against the E-Verify program that ensures these people are legally allowed to work in the U.S. *Note: on September 14, 2007, 12 construction workers were arrested at Fort Bliss because they were in the country*

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illegally. They were contract workers working for Balfour Beatty Construction, which had a federal government contract.

- Sponsor: Rep. Gallegly, Elton (R-CA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections

H.R. 3612, Local Law Enforcement Restoration Act – Changes current immigration law that preempts state and local governments from imposing civil or criminal sanctions on employers who hire illegal immigrants. This bill allows state and local governments to prosecute businesses and strip them of their business licenses if they hire illegal immigrants to work. Also limits the right to sue for damages.

- Sponsor: Rep. Weldon, Dave (R-FL)
- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

H.R. 2490 – Allows Homeland Security (Coast Guard) to screen all interdicted aliens caught at sea against the DHS biometric watch list database, US VISIT IDENT, which tracks criminals, immigration violators, and possible terrorists and if they have a record to detain them. *Note: the Coast Guard already has mobile biometrics collection equipment onboard their cutters operating between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico and have interdicted 900 since starting this program this year. More than 20% of those caught were criminals or immigration violators.*

- Sponsor: Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. (R-FL)
- Status: Subcommittee on Border, Maritime, and Global Counterterrorism

H.R. 1955, The Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act - Would create a National Commission to study the causes of violent radicalization and provide recommendations and legislative strategies for fighting this threat. It also establishes a Center of Excellence for the Prevention of Radicalization and Home Grown Terrorism to study social, political, economic causes of terrorism. It specifically requires homeland security officials to connect with countries that have a history of homegrown terrorism to benefit from their experience on how to combat homegrown terrorism in the United States.

- Sponsor: Rep. Harman, Jane (D-CA)
- Status: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

H.Con.Res. 204 - Expresses the sense of the Congress that state and local governments are not preempted from the enactment and enforcement of immigration-related laws and ordinances that do not directly conflict with federal immigration laws.

- Sponsor: Rep. Marchant, Kenny (R-TX)
- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.Con.Res. 40 - Opposes the creation of a North American Union and the NAFTA Superhighway.

- Sponsor: Rep. Goode, Virgil H., Jr. (R-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

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H.R. 3494, Charlie Norwood CLEAR Act of 2007 – Provides authority for local police departments to enforce immigration law, improves information sharing between the feds and local police, requires the feds to remove and deport criminal aliens, increases federal resources for local governments who choose to enforce immigration law, and reduces federal resources to local governments who provide sanctuary to violent criminal aliens.

- Sponsor: Rep. Blackburn, Marsha (R-TN)

- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

H.R. 2542, Border Law Enforcement Enhancement Act - Authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to make \$150 million in grants starting in FY08 and each succeeding year to hire, train, and equip local law enforcement officials within 25 miles of the southern border of the United States to assist in the crime and support to the federal government as a result of illegal immigration.

- Sponsor: Rep. Rodriguez, Ciro D. (D-TX)

- Status: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security

H.R. 2954, Secure Borders FIRST (For Integrity, Reform, Safety, and Anti-Terrorism) Act of 2007 - Provides for full enforcement of existing laws, stronger border security, worksite enforcement, temporary agriculture guest worker program, English as the official language.

- Sponsor: Rep. King, Peter T. (R-NY)

- Status: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections

H.Res. 499 - Expresses the sense of the House that the Administration should rigorously enforce the laws of the U.S. to substantially reduce illegal immigration and greatly improve border security.

- Sponsor: Rep. Smith, Lamar (R-TX)

- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

H.R. 1355, Scott Gardner Act - Makes DWI convictions grounds for mandatory detention and deportation of illegal aliens. Requires state and local law enforcement to collect immigration information when investigating these crimes.

- Sponsor: Rep. Myrick, Sue Wilkins (R-NC)

- Status: Subcommittee on Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Terrorism Risk Assessment

H.R. 1940, Birthright Citizenship Act - Considers a person born in the United States "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States for citizenship at birth purposes if the person is born in the United States of parents, one of whom is: (1) a U.S. citizen or national; (2) a lawful permanent resident alien whose residence is in the United States; or (3) an alien performing active service in the armed forces.

- Sponsor: Rep. Deal, Nathan (R-GA)

- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

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H.R. 1430, SAFE for America Act - Eliminates the diversity immigrant visa lottery.

- Sponsor: Rep. Goodlatte, Bob (R-VA)
- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.Amdt. 374 to H.R. 2764 – No federal funds may be used by the State Department to violate laws that require them to deny visas to nationals of countries that don't accept individuals the U.S. is trying to deport back to them.

- Sponsor: Rep. Tancredo, Thomas G. (R-CO)
- Status: Passed House

H.R. 2086 – Authorizes funds that the Department of Homeland Security can use to reimburse state and local communities who participate in the 287(g) program, a program that allows state and local law enforcement to get training and certification by federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials to enforce federal immigration laws.

Note: currently there is money for training, this bill allows funds to be used for travel to and from these training sessions, lodging, food, and other expenses while these officers are away.

- Sponsor: Rep. Davis, David (R-TN)
- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

H.R. 2109, Empowering our Local Communities Act of 2007 – Requires a mandatory 5-40 year prison sentence for any illegal alien who commits manslaughter while driving intoxicated. Makes it a misdemeanor to be illegally present in the U.S. Provides \$650 million to continue and expand the institutional removal program, which identifies criminal illegal aliens in our prisons, ensures they aren't released into society, and removes them from the U.S. after the completion of their sentences. Provides \$40 million in FY08 for the 287(g) program, that trains state and local law enforcement in federal immigration law so they may enforce federal immigration law in their communities.

- Sponsor: Rep. Drake, Thelma (R-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security

H.Res. 351 – Encourages federal authorities to vigorously enforce all existing immigration laws. Encourages the end of sanctuary policies by having state and local law enforcement report all immigration violations to the Department of Homeland Security. Calls on the federal government to encourage and support state and local law enforcement who want to help assist in the enforcement of federal immigration laws. Expresses that the U.S. is a nation of laws and they must be enforced to ensure the integrity of our immigration system.

- Sponsor: Rep. Sullivan, John (R-OK)
- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.R. 480 – Prohibits banking institutions from approving mortgages for a primary residence to any person without a valid Social Security number. Since all people legally

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allowed to work in the U.S. have a Social Security number and all who have mortgages must have a job, this bill targets illegals.

- Sponsor: Rep. Doolittle, John T. (R-CA)

- Status: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit

H.R. 2250 – Prevents inappropriate litigation against the United States. None of the sums appropriated in any Act of Congress shall be used or made available to pay any claim against the United States by Osvaldo Aldrete-Davila arising out of the conduct of Ignacio Ramos, Jose Alonso Compean, or any other person engaging in duties as an employee of the Government on February 17, 2005.

- Sponsor: Rep. McCaul, Michael T. (R-TX)

- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

H.R. 1811, Maritime Law Enforcement Improvement Act of 2007 - Would give the Coast Guard greater authority to apprehend and prosecute maritime smugglers of illegal immigrants into the United States. Would make illegal immigrant smuggling or the conspiracy or attempt to smuggle immigrants into the United States a felony under federal law. Under current law, immigrant smuggling is only a felony if the smuggler seeks commercial advantage or private financial gain, or seriously harms or endangers an individual. Would also give the Coast Guard extraterritorial jurisdiction outside of U.S. waters to gather evidence and conduct investigations in order to apprehend and prosecute immigrant smugglers.

- Sponsor: LaTourette, Steven C. (R-OH)

- Status: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law

H.R. 1909- Increases the number of Federal judgeships in certain judicial districts with heavy caseloads of criminal immigration cases.

- Sponsor: Rep. Cuellar, Henry (D-TX)

- Status: House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property

H.R. 1342, Secure Entry Act - Suspends the visa waiver program until the Secretary of Homeland Security certifies to Congress that the automated entry-exit control system is fully implemented and functional, all U.S. ports of entry have functional biometric machine readers and all nonimmigrants, including Border Crossing Card holders, are processed through the automated entry-exit control system.

- Sponsor: Rep. Gingrey, Phil (R-GA)

- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.R. 1314, Photo Identification Security Act - Restricts the forms of identification that may be accepted by the federal government or by financial institutions to a Social Security card accompanied by a photo identification card issued by the federal or a state government, a driver's license or identification card issued by a state that is in compliance with the REAL ID Act of 2005 (i.e. one that verifies legal presence), a passport issued by

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the United States or a foreign government, and a photo identification card issued by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

- Sponsor: Blackburn, Marsha (R-TN)
- Status: Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement

H.R. 997, English Language Unity Act - Declares English to be the official language of the United States. Requires official governmental functions at all levels of government be conducted in English.

- Sponsor: King, Steve (R-IA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education

H.R. 939 – Gives authority to the National Guard or Reserves to assist the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security in border security.

- Sponsor: Rep. Goode, Virgil H., Jr. (R-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 563, Congressional Pardon for Border Patrol Agents Ramos and Compean Act

– Orders the criminal convictions and sentences of Border Patrol Agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean be vacated and release them from prison. Prohibits any further criminal prosecution or other proceedings against the agents. Requires DHS to examine the rules of engagement and pursuit policy of Border Patrol agents.

- Sponsor: Rep. Hunter, Duncan (R-CA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security

H.Con.Res. 37 - Expresses the sense of Congress that Border Patrol agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean should be pardoned.

- Sponsor: Rep. Tancredo, Thomas G. (R-CO)
- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.Res. 18 - Expresses disapproval by the House of Representatives of the “Totalization” agreement signed between the Commissioner of Social Security in the United States and the Director General of the Social Security Institute in Mexico on June 29, 2004, which if approved would entitle illegal immigrants to claim U.S. Social Security benefits for work performed illegally if they became legal at some later date.

- Sponsor: Rep. Goode, Virgil H., Jr. (R-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Social Security

H.R. 279, Social Security Totalization Agreement Reform Act of 2007 – Requires a joint resolution passed by Congress to approve any “Totalization” agreement with any foreign nation.

- Sponsor: Rep. Cubin, Barbara (R-WY)
- Status: Subcommittee on Social Security

H.R. 332 – Does not allow wages earned by illegal immigrants to count for Social Security benefits should they become legalized.

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- Sponsor: Rep. Carter, John R. (R-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Social Security

H.Con.Res. 267 - Calling on the President to commute the sentences of United States Border Patrol Agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean to time served.

- Sponsor: Rep. Delahunt, William D. (D-MA)
- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.R. 4088, Secure America with Verification and Enforcement Act – Calls for an increase of 8,000 border patrol agents, outlines ways to recruit more of them through bonuses, student loan repayment, and creates a program where DHS and the military work together to increase surveillance. Makes the E-Verify program mandatory for employers. E-Verify is a free and easy to use system that allows employers to determine if prospective employees are legal by accessing a government database. Requires information sharing between DHS, Social Security, and the IRS when there is possible stolen identification numbers. Increases more ICE agents to enforce laws in the nation's interior and uses state and local law enforcement personnel. Increases federal judges to expedite removal of illegal aliens. Implements a media campaign to inform illegals of new laws and penalties and also informing employers of penalties for hiring illegals.

- Sponsor: Rep. Shuler, Heath (D-NC)
- Status: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities

H.R. 4160 - Withholds highway funds if a State does not comply with certain requirements in issuing a driver's license or identification card.

- Sponsor: Rep. Fossella, Vito (R-NY)
- Status: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

H.R. 4176 - Restricts illegal aliens access to driver's licenses and State-issued identification documents.

- Sponsor: Rep. King, Peter T. (R-NY)
- Status: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

H.R. 4201, Justice for the Newark College Students Act - This bill would prohibit bail for illegal aliens arrested on felony charges. This bill was sparked by 3 murders in August in NJ where the murder suspect, an illegal alien, was arrested and released on bail despite 2 other pending felony charges. This bill requires local authorities to inform Homeland Security when they arrest an illegal alien on a state felony charge. Once arrested on the felony charge, the illegal alien may not be granted bail relative to his federal deportation proceedings.

- Sponsor: Rep. Dent, Charles W. (R-PA)
- Status: House Committee on the Judiciary

H.R. 5124, Reinstatement of the Secure Fence Act of 2008 - To amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to provide for two-layered, 14-foot reinforced fencing along the southwest border, and for other purposes.

- Sponsor: Rep. Hunter, Duncan (R-CA)

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